

Pacific Regents/ La Jolla

3890 Noble Dr.

San Diego, CA 92122



Pacific Regents, a 21 story building with 148 units, is a condominium association for individuals over the age of 62, managed by Sunrise Senior Living. The complex is participating in the City of San Diego's multi-family recycling pilot program that distributed re-usable, in-unit recycling bags to multi-family residents.

The bags were purchased with grant money from the State Department of Conservation, and were designed to assist residents to collect recyclables at their home and transport them to a central disposal area in the complex. The bags are made of 100% recycled plastic. The re-usable bags are flexible, have a large capacity and can fit in small spaces or even be hung. They are also easy to carry, leaving residents' hands free to carry other items such as the trash bags, which is also disposed at the same location.



The building has trash chutes on each floor. In order to make recycling convenient to the residents, the property manager and the residents' Energy Conservation Committee created a recycling center in each trash chute room by placing three recycling containers in each room, where residents could dispose of their recyclables. Residents collect the recyclables in the re-usable recycling bag, and empty the contents into the recycling containers at each trash chute room, eliminating the use of plastic bags.

The janitorial staff empties the floors' containers into the main recycling dumpsters located downstairs. Above the recycling bins on each floor are City produced signs reminding residents what can and cannot be recycled in the City of San Diego.

Residents are very pleased with the bags. They are particularly pleased with the information and photos printed on it, informing about the City Recycling Ordinance and showing what can and can't be recycled, clarifying questions they might have on what items should be recycled.

But the recycling is not limited to the residents. There are also recycling containers inside staff offices at every desk, copier, fax and food serving area.

The residents and staff are participating at an impressive level and will continue to do so. Pacific Regents has increased their recycling services since receiving the recycling bags from the City's Environmental Services Department in April 09, increasing their waste diversion rate from 47% to 52 % in June 09, making them a model for multi-family recycling in the City of San Diego